## RESOLUTION No. 12-570

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, are apprised that ten-year-old Jarvez Cooper, aka "Young Jarvez," is a rapper entertainer since the age of two with the determination to lift his family out of poverty. His passion is to give back to the community by helping other children like himself deal with issues that come with not having a father in their life; and,

WHEREAS, when Jarvez's mother, Rasheda, found her world turned upside down, she moved her four children into Hope Place, a confidential home for abused and battered women. "It was not a very good experience," his mother said, "but me and my four children just bundled up together." Jarvez's, the youngest, demeanor changed once they were in the shelter; he became the family entertainer. He would freestyle rap to cheer up everyone; and,

WHEREAS, eventually Jarvez's mom, Rasheda, developed a stress related illness, lost her job and later lost their home. Jarvez at age four told his mother, "Don't worry Mom, I will buy you a house." While in Hope Place, Jarvez's oldest brother Jerrell accepted a music scholarship to Alabama A&M, where he played saxophone and later became head drum major. At the age of two, Jarvez would steal the attention of the crowd at football games where his older brother performed. Dancing in the stands, the crowd would cheer for him. Also by age two, he entertained neighbors for ice cream. By age four Jarvez was ready for the business as he did freestyle rap at gas stations, malls, etc. People not believing what they were seeing would give him money. By age five, he earned the stage name Young Jarvez. With a hit song, "What It Is," and with several performances under his belt, he said "I'm going to make you look at me. DON'T BLINK;" and,

WHEREAS, with a bold competitive spirit, a born entertainer came into this world in Huntsville, Alabama, on Friday, July 13, 2001. Jarvez attends Huntsville City schools, and he knows and respects the fact that rapping is not to entertain friends during school. School is for getting an education. Jarvez is like a miniature version of the rap superstars in BET videos - fresh good looks like his idol T.I., baggy jeans and a long T-shirt, a heavy-hanging chain, removable rack of steel in his mouth known as "grillz", and a haircut sporting his name. Jarvez's mom makes it clear that this "bling" is his entertaining costume; and,

WHEREAS, Young Jarvez's raw knack for hip-hop's fundamentals caught the eye of a local producer and rap artist, Steven Woods. Mr. Woods has been working with Jarvez and has written two tracks for him. Jarvez has performed at local basketball games, Boys and Girls Club Summer Festivals, auditioned in Memphis for "Showtime at the Apollo," and his songs have been played on WEUP. Jo-Ski Love, a DJ at the station, plays his recordings, has seen Jarvez perform and says Young Jarvez has what it takes! If all goes well, Jarvez will have

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an opportunity to perform for and with Justin Bieber, the latest teenage idol in pop and rap music; and,

WHEREAS, at the age of ten with hit records, he has been labeled "Hottest of the Kidz" by his fans. Jarvez holds his own performing with adult artists and usually steals the show. He has opened performances for several well-known artists and been featured on Worldstar Hip-Hop. His goal is to become an actor, a music superstar, acquire endorsement deals, and give back to his community. He made a cameo appearance rapping one of his songs in the movie, <a href="Stand">Stand</a>, which premieres this year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, acknowledge this determined young man, Jarvez Cooper, and wish him much success in all future endeavors, primarily lifting his family out of poverty and giving back to the community by helping other children.

**ADOPTED** on this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012.

President of the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama

**APPROVED** on this the  $12^{th}$  day of July, 2012.